

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1 - 14. (Withdrawn)

15. (Currently Amended) ~~A composition of matter comprising a purified~~ soluble
Candidate Plasticity Gene-15 (s-CPG15) polypeptide comprising of an amino acid
sequence having at least 85% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 1, and having at least one
s-CPG15 biological activity selected from the group consisting of: ~~biological activity.~~

a) the ability to promote cell survival,

b) the ability to promote cell differentiation, and

c) the ability to prevent or reduce cell death.

16. (Currently Amended) ~~The composition~~ The purified s-CPG15 polypeptide of
claim 15, wherein said ~~s-CPG15 polypeptide lacks~~ further comprises either a signal
~~sequence or a GPI linkage sequence;~~ or a signal sequence, but not both.

17. (Withdrawn) The composition of claim 16, wherein said s-CPG15 lacks a
signal sequence and a GPI-linkage sequence.

18. (Currently Amended) The ~~composition~~polypeptide of claim 17~~15~~, wherein the soluble CPG15 ~~lacking a signal sequence and a GPI linkage sequence has the *in vitro* biological activity of a CPG15 protein, wherein~~ is purified from a cell culture, in which a CPG15 protein has undergone all of the following modifications:

- a) the signal sequence and the GPI linkage sequence of said CPG15 protein have been cleaved;
- b) said CPG15 protein has been bound to a cell membrane; and
- c) said CPG15 protein has been released from the cell: into the supernatant of said cell culture,

wherein said CPG15 released into the supernatant is the soluble CPG15.

19. (Cancelled) The composition of claim 17, wherein said s-CPG15 comprises the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1.

20. (Currently Amended) The ~~composition~~polypeptide of claim 17~~15~~, wherein said s-CPG15 comprises a post-translational modification.

21 - 23. (Withdrawn)

24-28. (Cancelled)

29. (Withdrawn)

30. (Cancelled)

31. (Withdrawn)

32. (Cancelled)

33-34. (Withdrawn)

35-37. (Cancelled)

38-39. (Withdrawn)

40. (Cancelled)

41-58. (Withdrawn)

59. (New) The purified polypeptide of claim 15, said polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence having at least 90% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 1.

60. (New) The purified polypeptide of claim 15, said polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence having at least 95% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 1.

61. (New) The polypeptide of claim 59 comprising the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1.

62. (New) The polypeptide of claim 15, wherein said s-CPG15 is at least 85% pure.

63. (New) The polypeptide of claim 15, wherein said s-CPG15 is at least 90% pure.

64. (New) The polypeptide of claim 15, wherein said s-CPG15 is at least 95% pure.

65. (New) The polypeptide of claim 18, wherein said s-CPG15 is at least 85% pure.

66. (New) The polypeptide of claim 18, wherein said s-CPG15 is at least 90% pure.

67. (New) The polypeptide of claim 18, wherein said s-CPG15 is at least 95% pure.

68. (New) The polypeptide of claim 20, wherein said s-CPG15 is at least 85% pure.

69. (New) The polypeptide of claim 20, wherein said s-CPG15 is at least 90% pure.

70. (New) The polypeptide of claim 20, wherein said s-CPG15 is at least 95% pure.